

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 AID-05 INT-05 /083 W

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R 030933Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2090

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 0845

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEAN, SN

SUBJECT: GNZ-ASEAN MEETING

1. SUMMARY: GNZ OFFICIALS, HEADED BY MFA DEPUTY SECRETARY NORRISH, HELD TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH SECRETARIES GENERAL OF ASEAN IN SINGAPORE, FEBRUARY 27-28. ACCORDING TO PEREN, NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSIONER, GNZ OBJECTIVE IS TO DEVELOP A "FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP"

WITH ASEAN AND BEGIN A DIALOGUE ON REGIONAL (ASEAN) PROBLEM. THEY DID NOT PROPOSE ANY TYPE OF FORMAL ASSOCIATION. GNZ OFFERED TO CONTRIBUTE MODEST AMOUNTS OF TECHNICAL AID IN SEVERAL SPECIFIC FIELDS AS A STIMULUS TO REGIONAL COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING FEBRUARY 27-28 MEETING WITH ASEAN SECRETARIES GENERAL, GNZ OFFERED TO ASSIST FIVE ASEAN COUNTRIES IN SOME 7 OR 8 SPECIFIC AREAS. THOSE FIELDS MENTIONED BY PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE FORESTRY, COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORTATION, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND SEED CULTIVATION. NZ DELEGATES IN APPARENTLY LOW-KEY APPROACH SIMPLY OUTLINED WHAT THEY THOUGHT NZ MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO REGIONAL DEVELOP-

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MENT THROUGH PROVISION OF TECHNICAL AID, AND ASKED ASEAN MEMBERS CONSIDER SUGGESTIONS AND PROVIDE UNIFIED RESPONSE. MAIN PRINCIPLE,

ACCORDING TO NZ DELEGATE, IS THAT EACH PROJECT MUST BE REGIONAL NOT BILATERAL IN CHARACTER. THEIR HOPE IS TO FIND FIVE AREAS OF COOPERATION, SO THAT ONE PROJECT COULD BE LOCATED IN EACH OF FIVE COUNTRIES.

3. AFTER ASEAN HAS HAD TIME TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL, SECOND MEETING WILL BE HELD IN APRIL OR MAY IN WELLINGTON HOPEFULLY TO AGREE ON SPECIFICS.

4. FROM ALL WE HAVE HEARD TO DATE, MEETING WENT VERY WELL. NZ ACHIEVED ITS OBJECTIVE OF BEGINNING AN INFORMAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ASEAN AND ASEAN REPS SEEMED PLEASED WITH NEW ZEALAND'S LOW-KEY AND POSITIVE APPROACH.
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